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HIS114

13 April 2023

Film & Discussion #26

Global warming is affecting the earth in ways at an alarming rate! As mentioned in the beginning portion of the video, the signs of global warming include but are not limited to droughts, tropical diseases spreading north of the equator, and extreme weather conditions. Concerning the basic elements of rainfall and evaporation, daytime and nighttime temperatures also affect and even damage the environment & agriculture production. The disappearance of sea ice and snow pack on an unmeasurable scale—causes rising sea levels. One degree rises in its temperature and a concerning 4-7 degree rise in cold environments such as Alaska.

Some of the long-term dangers of global warming are evident in the CO₂ emissions. The film has displayed vast amounts of historical data that have proven to be evident when stating that it has increased from 280 parts/million during the Industrial Revolution to 370 parts/million today. In just less than 300 years, carbon dioxide emissions, being a greenhouse gas, affects the environment's automation of photosynthesis and determines our blood chemistry. As stated within the film, the professor mentions the United State's disregard for any long-term effects, which implies that it is potentially capable.

In addition to these emissions, coal-fired factories and power plants are highly responsible for pollution in today's environment. The danger is not just the direct impact on the world due to the production of energy and fuel for the economy but also the psychological dilemma which drives these things to take place. The long-term danger would have to do with

this bystander effect of not being an active participant in making change because we believe someone is already doing it. With enough time that will pass, not only are we finding out that others are believing the same thing, but we are also allowing our future to hold no evident change because of it. While this is not the case for many major corporations such as Google in their carbon footprint as of 2007, being neutral, many companies are in it for the long-run desire of making a profit, even if it means that corners are being cut to reach that goal faster. The major concern for this would have to be the long-term evidence of the earth's average temperature rising by a few degrees, causing catastrophic outcomes such as major flooding and swallowing of shallow land and threatening of the environment's natural habitat for animals which would eventually trickle down to humanity.

Cited Sources:

Learn About Our Carbon-Free Goal - Google Sustainability

https://sustainability.google/carbon-free/?utm_source=googlehpfooter&utm_medium=homepagepromos&utm_campaign=bottom-footer&utm_content=#home